

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	18524	Agenda Number	23.
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Meeting Date:	9/27/2012	Department:	Economic Growth and Redevelopment
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Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to award cultural arts services contracts for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 in an amount not to exceed \$4,641,330, and approving an award of contracts identified in the exhibit attached to the resolution.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$4,626,330 is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Approved Budget for the Cultural Arts Fund for cultural arts contracts; \$15,000 is expected in Fiscal Year 2012-2013 from the Texas Commission on the Arts Sub-granting Program grant for a total of \$4,641,330.

Fiscal Note

There is no anticipated fiscal impact.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Megan Crigger, Cultural Arts Program Manager / EGRSO, 974-9312; Barbara Sparks, Contract Compliance Spec Sr / EGRSO, 974-7854
Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Austin Arts Commission.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This agenda item seeks City Council authorization of a total amount for funding of cultural arts contracts of \$4,641,330 for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 for contracts over the administrative limit of \$55,000. The funding includes \$4,626,330 from the Cultural Arts Fund and \$15,000 projected from the Texas Commission on the Arts Sub-Granting Program grant. This is the first year of a two-year application cycle. The funding has been allocated to support applicants in the Cultural Arts Funding Programs who received a score of 75 or greater in the 2013 peer review process. It also continues funding for Zachary Scott Theatre maintenance in the amount of \$60,000. Council is being asked to approve contracts in excess of the City Manager's authority.

The City of Austin Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office Cultural Arts Division serves to encourage, develop, and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative, and cultural activity in the City of Austin. The Cultural Arts Division manages funding programs to provide financial support to organizations and individuals through a competitive application and review process. The majority of the funds for cultural contracts are derived from a portion of the collection of the hotel occupancy tax. These funds may be used to promote tourism as

well as the convention and hotel industry. Staff has recently revised the cultural arts contract application guidelines to ensure that the expenditure of hotel occupancy tax revenues is consistent with the requirements of state law. Applicant contract requests must support activities related to programming and projects that are open to Austin residents, visitors and tourists and that are consistent with the promotion and enhancement of the City of Austin as a cultural destination.

A committee of the Arts Commission worked with Cultural Arts Division staff in the development of a funding plan and formulaic allocation of funds based on a funding matrix model adopted by Council on August 18, 2005. Deliberations by the Arts Commission on the funding plan and related matrix parameters were conducted in a blind process. Names of the individual applicants were not revealed during the competitive selection process. The Arts Commission adopted the matrix parameters resulting in the funding recommendations. Recommended contracts that contain funding amounts below the City Manager's authority are being approved by the City Manager. Contracts in excess of that amount are shown on "Exhibit A." Both the contracts approved by the City Manager and those contracts as shown on Exhibit A were recommended for approval by the Arts Commission on August 20, 2012.